



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:

Applicant: RISSIN, Joseph B., et al.

Serial No.: 09/800,828

Filed: March 8, 2001

For: EAR NUT WITH HANDLES

Examiner: BRITTAIN, James R.

Art Unit: 3677

**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

April 18, 2004

Honorable Sir:

LETTER

In response to the November 24, 2003 Office Action, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-10, and 14.

11. (Amended) A jewelry clasp for gripping the post of a piece of jewelry, said jewelry clasp comprising:

a base plate having a first surface for facing toward said piece of jewelry and a second surface for facing away from said piece of jewelry, an opening in said base plate for passing a jewelry post therethrough;

a pair of spring fingers extending outwardly from said base plate second surface, said